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**From:** McBride, Sharon Y [Mcbride.Sharony@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 5/1/2020 3:23:40 PM  
**To:** Mendelsohn, Mike [Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Ingram, Earl [Ingram.Earl@epa.gov]; Bohnenblust, Eric [Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Oxitec EUP RE: Final OPP Update

Hi Mike –

I'm finish with 8 of the documents. I have a question regarding 1 document. I called Eric and I just got his voice mail. Can either of you call me at 703-305-5232 to discuss 1 document in question. My office number has been forwarded to my AWL.

Thanks!

Sharon

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**From:** Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** McBride, Sharon Y <Mcbride.Sharony@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ingram, Earl <Ingram.Earl@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Oxitec EUP RE: Final OPP Update

Here is the docket id for that document → Document ID No. EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0274-0002

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**From:** Mendelsohn, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 10:59 AM  
**To:** McBride, Sharon Y <Mcbride.Sharony@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ingram, Earl <Ingram.Earl@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Oxitec EUP RE: Final OPP Update

Thanks so much Sharon! Let us know if you need any additional information. One piece that may help you I the public description of the EUP from Oxitec that is already in the docket.

Mike

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**From:** McBride, Sharon Y <Mcbride.Sharony@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 10:25 AM  
**To:** Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ingram, Earl <Ingram.Earl@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Oxitec EUP RE: Final OPP Update

Good Morning Mike –

I'm working on reviewing the supporting documents I received from Eric Bohnenblust. The plan is to complete the review on today & post the documents today as well. I'll update you once the review is completed.

Sharon

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**From:** Mendelsohn, Mike <[Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 9:20 AM  
**To:** McBride, Sharon Y <[Mcbride.Sharony@epa.gov](mailto:Mcbride.Sharony@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Oxitec EUP RE: Final OPP Update

FYI –

I saw Earl was off today.

Mike

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**From:** Mendelsohn, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 9:19 AM  
**To:** Overbey, Dian <[Overbey.Dian@epa.gov](mailto:Overbey.Dian@epa.gov)>; McNally, Robert <[McNally.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:McNally.Robert@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Overstreet, Anne <[overstreet.anne@epa.gov](mailto:overstreet.anne@epa.gov)>; Bohnenblust, Eric <[Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov](mailto:Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov)>; Barber, Delores <[Barber.Delores@epa.gov](mailto:Barber.Delores@epa.gov)>; Ingram, Earl <[Ingram.Earl@epa.gov](mailto:Ingram.Earl@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Oxitec EUP RE: Final OPP Update

Dian,

We have loaded the items to the docket this morning, but they are undergoing CBI review and they likely will not be ready today FYI.

Mike

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**From:** Overbey, Dian <[Overbey.Dian@epa.gov](mailto:Overbey.Dian@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 9:02 AM  
**To:** McNally, Robert <[McNally.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:McNally.Robert@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Overstreet, Anne <[overstreet.anne@epa.gov](mailto:overstreet.anne@epa.gov)>; Mendelsohn, Mike <[Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov)>; Bohnenblust, Eric <[Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov](mailto:Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Final OPP Update

Today, after extensive evaluation of the best available science and public input, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has granted an experimental use permit (EUP) to Oxitec Ltd. to field test the use of genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes as a way to reduce mosquito populations to protect public health from mosquito-borne illnesses.

To meet today's public health challenges head-on, the nation needs to facilitate innovation and advance the science around new tools and approaches to better protect the health of all Americans. **After all appropriate approvals are garnered**, EPA looks forward to receiving field test results regarding the effectiveness of this promising new tool that could help combat the spread of mosquito-borne diseases like the Zika virus.

The EUP is designed to test the effectiveness of genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes as a way to reduce mosquito populations in a controlled environment with appropriate safeguards as a first step to potentially wider use in the United States. The company must receive state and local approval before proceeding with field testing.

Oxitec's carefully developed field tests will be conducted over a two-year period in Monroe County, Florida, beginning in May 2020, and in Harris County, Texas, beginning in 2021.

During these field tests, Oxitec will release into the environment male mosquitoes genetically modified to carry a protein that will inhibit the survival of their female offspring when they mate with wild female mosquitoes. The male offspring will survive to become fully functional adults with the same genetic modification, providing multi-generational effectiveness that could ultimately lead to a reduction in *Aedes aegypti* mosquito populations in the release areas. EPA anticipates that this could be an effective tool to combat the spread of certain mosquito-borne diseases like the Zika virus in light of growing resistance to current insecticides.

Since only male mosquitoes will be released into the environment and they do not bite people, they will not pose a risk to people. It is also anticipated that there would be no adverse effects to animals such as bats and fish in the environment.

Oxitec is required to monitor and sample the mosquito population weekly in the treatment areas to determine how well the product works for mosquito control and to confirm that the modified genetic traits disappear from the male *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population over time. EPA has also maintained the right to cancel the EUP at any point during the 24-month period if unforeseen outcomes occur.

To read EPA's decision and the approved permit, go to: [Insert link]

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**From:** McNally, Robert <[McNally.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:McNally.Robert@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2020 9:00 AM

**To:** Overbey, Dian <[Overbey.Dian@epa.gov](mailto:Overbey.Dian@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Overstreet, Anne <[overstreet.anne@epa.gov](mailto:overstreet.anne@epa.gov)>; Mendelsohn, Mike <[Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov)>; Bohnenblust, Eric <[Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov](mailto:Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Final OPP Update

Can you send me?

Thanks